

# Polarimetric and Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar ; a new way to quantify three-dimensional structure of Earth and planetary surfaces (Pol-InSAR)

Completed Technology Project (2011 - 2012)



## Project Introduction

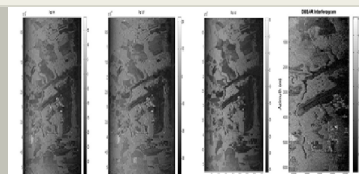
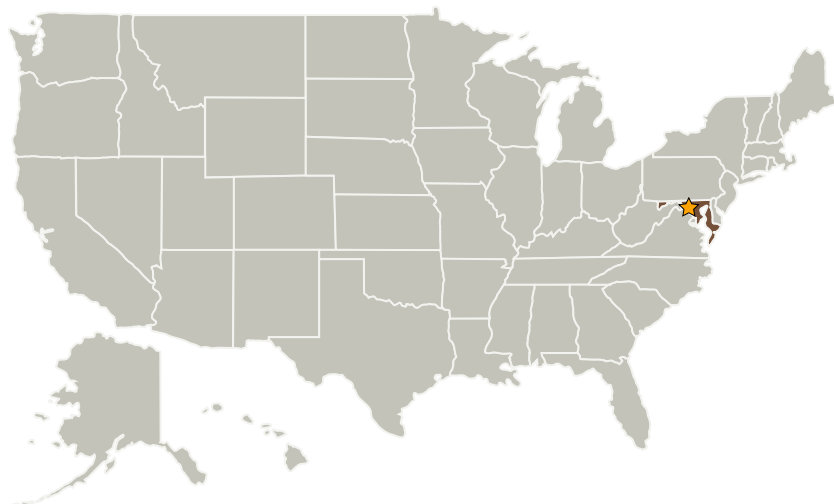
The PolInSAR technique is designed to greatly improve estimates of forest biomass and ecosystem 3D structure . This application is also of special interest in the study of permafrost and analogs of planetary surfaces using radar. We will develop a new estimation technique to quantify three-dimensional radar scattering mechanisms using Polarimetric and Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (PolInSAR) measurements with GSFC's newly developed DBSAR and later ECOSAR.

This study will employ a three phased approach: SAR image formation and calibration. DBSAR polarimetric and interferometric data analysis. PolInSAR algorithm development, validation and extension.

## Anticipated Benefits

This project benefits NASA EcoSAR IIP project and future airborne and spaceborne POLInSAR missions.

## Primary U.S. Work Locations and Key Partners



Left to Right. Polarimetric ( HH, VV, HV) and single pass Interferometric DBSAR images over WFF, VA. Data acquired during the successful 2011 Eco3D airborne campaign.

Project Image ROE FY12 CIF 351 ES Polarimetric and Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (Pol-InSAR); a new way to quantify three-dimensional structure of Earth and planetary surfaces

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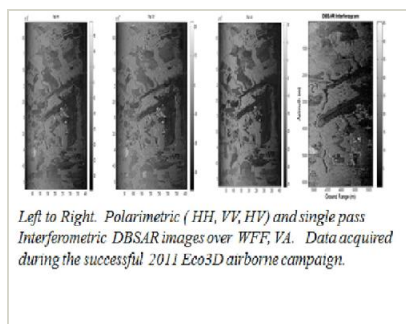


Organizations Performing Work	Role	Type	Location
★Goddard Space Flight Center(GSFC)	Lead Organization	NASA Center	Greenbelt, Maryland
University of Maryland-College Park(UMCP)	Supporting Organization	Academia	College Park, Maryland

## Primary U.S. Work Locations

Maryland

## Images



### 77.jpg

Project Image ROE FY12 CIF 351  
ES Polarimetric and Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (Pol-InSAR); a new way to quantify three-dimensional structure of Earth and planetary surfaces  
(<https://techport.nasa.gov/image/1169>)

## Project Website:

<http://sciences.gsfc.nasa.gov/sed/>

## Organizational Responsibility

### Responsible Mission Directorate:

Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

### Lead Center / Facility:

Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC)

### Responsible Program:

Center Innovation Fund: GSFC CIF

## Project Management

### Program Director:

Michael R Lapointe

### Program Manager:

Peter M Hughes

### Project Manager:

William E Cutlip

### Principal Investigator:

Jon K Ranson

### Co-Investigators:

Lynn M Carter  
Temilola E Fatoyinbo Agueh  
Rafael F Rincon  
Nargess Memarsadeghi

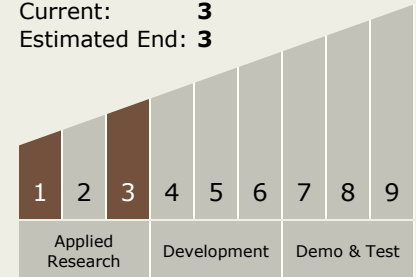
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## Technology Maturity (TRL)

Start: **1**  
Current: **3**  
Estimated End: **3**



## Technology Areas

### Primary:

- TX04 Robotic Systems
  - └ TX04.1 Sensing and Perception
    - └ TX04.1.3 Onboard Mapping and Data Analysis